

UNCLAS //N01000//

ALCOAST 504/12

COMDTNOTE 1000

SUBJ: LOSS OF COAST GUARDSMAN

1. It is with deep regret and sadness that I report the loss of Boatswains Mate Chief Terrell Horne, the Executive Petty Officer of CGC HALIBUT, who died early this morning from injuries sustained while conducting maritime law enforcement operations off the California coast.

2. CGC HALIBUT was investigating a panga-type vessel suspected of illicit activities after it was detected by a Coast Guard maritime patrol aircraft. When the CGC HALIBUT small boat approached, the suspect panga-type vessel maneuvered at a high rate of speed directly towards the small boat and struck it before fleeing the scene. Two

Coast Guardsmen were thrown from the boat into the water, and both members were immediately recovered by the small boat. Upon recovery it was apparent that BMC Horne had sustained a traumatic head injury. The other crew member had minor injuries. CGC HALIBUT crew quickly recovered the small boat and boarding team and immediately administered first aid. CGC HALIBUT returned to port where emergency medical service units pronounced BMC Horne deceased.

3. Coast Guard assets later successfully interdicted the fleeing panga-type vessel, boarded it, and detained two suspects. I commend the Coast Guard and Customs and Border Protection units who continued the pursuit and apprehended those believed to be responsible. We are actively investigating the incident.

4. BMC Horne stood the watch on the front lines of Coast Guard operations throughout his nearly 14 years of active duty. He previously served at Coast Guard Stations Emerald Isle, Humboldt Bay and Charleston, and also sailed aboard CGC DALLAS. Throughout his Coast Guard service, BMC Hornes professionalism and commitment, like those before him, ensured that we were always ready to answer the nations call.

5. The entire service is energized to support the family and shipmates of BMC Horne. Please keep his family and the crew of CGC HALIBUT in your thoughts and prayers.

6. Semper Paratus. ADM Bob Papp, Commandant, sends.

7. Internet release authorized.